

MAR 01 2005

Attorney Docket No. 03387/LH**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT  
AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicant(s): Kouji CHIKAISHI et al

Serial No. : 10/613,556

Filed : July 2, 2003

For : SERVICE VEHICLE

Art Unit : 3671

Examiner : Meredith C. PETRAVICK

**RESPONSE - 37 C.F.R. 1.111**Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

S I R :

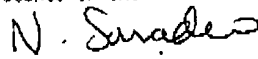
This is responsive to the Office Action mailed February 8, 2005, the term for response to which expires on May 8, 2005.

**ELECTION:**

Applicants hereby provisionally elect Group I, claims 9, 10 and 12, for further prosecution on the merits, with traverse.

**TRAVERSE:**

It is respectfully submitted that Group II (claim 11, which depends from claim 9) belongs to the same species for the purpose of examination as provisionally elected Group I. Both Groups I and II comprise the same downsizing device (i.e., the same patentable invention), and it is not understood why they are regarded as different species based solely on the presence of a cab top. The basic inventive concept of Groups I and II are the

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same and, therefore, these two groups of claims should be included in the same species.

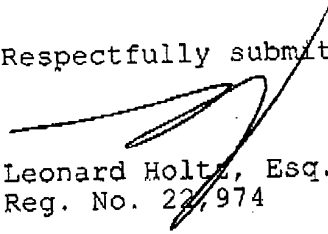
Moreover, claim 11 depends from claim 9 and should be allowable if claim 9 (or an amended version thereof) is found to be allowable.

It is respectfully requested that the Examiner reconsider the election requirement with respect to Groups I and II, and consider Groups I and II (all of claims 9, 10, 11 and 12) on the merits.

It is respectfully submitted that the foregoing is fully responsive to the outstanding Office Action. It is respectfully requested that prosecution on the merits now proceed with respect to Groups I and II, claims 9, 10, 11 and 12.

If the Examiner has any comments, questions, objections or recommendations, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the telephone number given below for prompt action.

Respectfully submitted,

  
Leonard Holtz, Esq.  
Reg. No. 22,974

Dated: March 1, 2005

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